

**REMARKS**

Applicants thank the Examiner for providing support for the common knowledge of the gene Polynucleotide Kinase 3' phosphatase (PNKP) and finding the correct section of the specification that provides support for claims 204 and 205. Applicants also appreciate the helpful suggestions in the Office Action for how one might amend existing claims to put them in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 195 and 203 have been cancelled. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in a separate divisional or continuation application. Claims 196-202 are herein amended to depend from allowed claim 187, and the phrase "and the biological condition characterized is \_\_\_\_\_" has been deleted. In addition, claim 204 is herein amended to depend only from claim 187. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments.

Support for claims 196-202 is found in the application on p. 11, lines 9-10 and in Tables 1 through 7.

Support for claims 204-205 is found in the application on p. 30, lines 21-27.

In light of the above arguments, Applicants respectfully submit that there is support in the specification for claims 187-194 (already allowed), 196-202 and 204-205 and that no new matter has been added.

In summary, the claims, as amended, have support in the specification and do not contain new matter. Further, for the reasons stated in Response B and Supplement to Response B, the claims are enabled for someone of ordinary skill in the art and the specification, as written, does not require undue experimentation to practice the invention.

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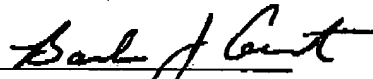
**CONCLUSION**

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and a notice of allowance are therefore requested.

Applicants do not believe that an extension of time is required; however, this conditional petition for an extension of time is being made in the event that the need for an extension has been overlooked. Please pay any fees required for the timely consideration of this application from deposit account number 19-4972. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if any matters remain outstanding so that they may be resolved expeditiously.

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Respectfully submitted,



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